

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 DHA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /045 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076347

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, PINS, IN

SUBJECT: DWIVEDI CASE

REF: NEW DELHI 4751

1. REFTEL INFO PASSED TO MRS. DWIVEDI APRIL 5. SHE WAS DISAPPOINTED BUT NOT DISCOURAGED BY THE BAIL REFUSAL, STATING HER FAITH IN THE ULTIMATE FAIRNESS OF THE INDIAN COURT SYSTEM NOW THAT THE EMERGENCY IS PAST.

2. MRS. DWIVEDI DOES NOT KNOW IF ANY PATNA LAWYERS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED AND COMMENTED THAT HER HUSBAND ARGUED THE BAIL HEARING HIMSELF. HER ONLY INFO FROM INDIA IS NOW COMING FROM LETTERS FROM HER HUSBAND, AND VIA EMBASSY. SHE COMMENTED THAT HER HUSBAND HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO PHONE HER IN THE PAST, ALTHOUGH HE HAS HER NUMBER. IF ADDRESSEES SHOULD HAVE OCCASION IN FUTURE CONTACTS WITH LAWYERS OR FRIENDS, YOU MIGHT ENCOURAGE DIRECT COMMUNICATION BY GIVING THEM MRS. DWIVEDI'S HOME PHONE NUMBER IN NEW YORK, (212)257-2979.
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3. IN ACCORD WITH NEW DELHI 3412, DEPTOFF MENTIONED THAT WHEN A DEFINITE CONTACT IS KNOWN IN PATNA, CALCUTTA CONSOFF MIGHT STOP OFF THERE TO CHECK ON SITUATION, BUT MRS. DWIVEDI

DID NOT SEEM TO THINK THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY.

4. FYI: MRS. DWIVEDI MENTIONED THAT HER HUSBAND WROTE THAT WHILE HE WAS IN TIHAR JAIL, HE WAS CELLMATE AND ALLEGEDLY CLOSE FRIEND OF NEW HOME MINISTER CHARAN SINGH AND NEW AGRICULTURE MINISTER BADAL, SO SHE IS HOPEFUL THE PROSECUTION WILL BE REVIEWED. IF CASE GOES TO TRIAL HOWEVER, SHE SAYS HE HAS A FIRM ALIBI WHICH HE HAS KEPT SECRET TO PREVENT THE PROSECUTION WITNESSES FROM TAILORING THEIR STORY. END FYI.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

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